

## Muncie-Delaware County Chamber of Commerce

August 5, 2003

(765) 288-6681 Fax (765) 751-9151 Ms. Marlene H. Dortch Commission Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW Washington, DC 20554 Re: Docket Number DA-03-167

Dear Ms. Dortch:

I am writing you concerning the long distance application that SBC Indiana has filed with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). As president of the Muncie-Delaware County Chamber of Commerce in Indiana, I can express that SBC has been a strong corporate citizen that has also been committed to strong service standards throughout Indiana.

Allowing SBC to enter into the long distance business will create further competition in both the long distance and local service markets in our area. The business community in Delaware County values the freedom to choose among a number of companies for various products and services. This freedom strengthens our economy and adding SBC to the list of long distance providers will further enhance the scope of providers in the telecommunications industry.

I know firsthand about choice in this market because I've already heard from SBC Indiana's competitors. They're aggressively targeting business and residential customers in Delaware County with packaged services. SBC should be allowed to offer long distance so that this service is added to their spectrum of packaged services.

The Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission has endorsed SBC's application. It's now time for the FCC to give Indiana consumers and businesses every opportunity to get the same benefits of competition, choice, convenience and breadth of service that other states are experiencing. I urge the FCC to approve SBC's long distance application.

Sincerely,

Dan R. Allen President

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